

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

139. (currently amended) A computerized tool embodied on a computer-readable medium for facilitating forward looking strategic analyses of a collection of technical documents each having a searchable text and associated bibliographic information including a source and a date, comprising the computer-assisted steps:

performing a first search to identify a subset (second collection) of documents focused on a particular field,

identifying those documents in the subset relevant to each of “m” “actions”;

identifying those documents in the subset relevant to each of “n” “objects”;

combining each of the “m” actions with each of the “n” objects to construct an “m” x “n” array of “cells”, such that each of the cells is associated only with the documents in said subset that were identified as relevant both to the respective action and to the respective object;

applying at least two scoring metrics to the bibliographic data for the documents associated with each of the cells, at least one of the scoring metrics including a time weighted predictive factor; and

generating a graph showing each of the applied scoring metrics for each of the array cells.

140. (previously presented) The computerized tool of claim 139 wherein the actions and objects include specific instances of categories selected from the group consisting essentially of products, services, production methods, production applications, technologies, technological applications, chemical compounds, chemical indications, inventors, assignees, forward citations to a key reference, backward citations to a key reference, and combinations thereof.

141. (previously presented) The computerized tool of claim 140 wherein the documents include both issued patents and not yet issued patent applications.

142. (previously presented) The computerized tool of claim 141 wherein the source information includes patent assignees.

143. (previously presented) The computerized tool of claim 142 wherein the date information includes a filing date.

144. (previously presented) The computerized tool of claim 143 wherein the date information also includes an issue date for the issued patents.

145. (previously presented) The computerized tool of claim 144 wherein one of the scoring metrics includes an innovation measure which takes into account changes of patent activity over time.

146. (currently amended) The computerized tool of claim 144 wherein one of the scoring metrics includes a recent innovation measure which takes into account recently filed patent applications.

147. (currently amended) The computerized tool of claim 144 wherein one of the scoring metrics includes a measure of the relative position of a particular assignee within a particular cell.

148. (currently amended) The computerized tool of claim 142 wherein each scoring metric is focused on a different assignee.

149. (previously presented) The computerized tool of claim 148 wherein the graph is a spider graph showing each assignee's score for a predetermined number of key cells overlaid over the corresponding scores for at least two other assignees.

150. (previously presented) The computerized tool of claim 139 wherein the graph displays a visual quantitative comparison for each scoring metric.

151. (previously presented) The computerized tool of claim 150 wherein some of the cells are grouped into "clusters", and a combined scoring metric is displayed for each cluster.

152. (previously presented) The computerized tool of claim 139 wherein the bibliographic source information includes the name of a subject person, organization, or event.

153. (previously presented) The computerized tool of claim 139 wherein the date bibliographic information includes a publication date.

154. (previously presented) The computerized tool of claim 139 wherein the time weighted predictive factor is based at least in part on a publication, creation, or issue date.

155. (previously presented) The computerized tool of claim 139 wherein one of the scoring metrics includes a concentration or frequency measure which takes into account distribution of the selected documents among their respective sources.

156. (previously presented) The computerized tool of claim 139 wherein one of the scoring metrics includes a composite measure of dominance, innovation, and predictive innovation.

157. (previously presented) The computerized tool of claim 139 wherein the actions and objects are crossed with a third dimension to form a three dimensional matrix.

158. (previously presented) The computerized tool of claim 139 wherein the graph is a bar graph which each bar showing a particular scoring metric applied to a particular cell.